

**From:** Hubbard, Joseph  
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**To:** R6 Daily News MailList  
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**1 — Railroad Commission again finds oil and gas industry not to blame for quakes, Dallas Morning News, 9/10/2015**  
<http://bizbeatblog.dallasnews.com/2015/09/railroad-commissison-again-rules-oil-and-gas-company-not-to-blame-for-quakes.html/>

Five months ago geologists from Southern Methodist University identified two wells used to store wastewater from natural gas drilling as the likely cause of a series of earthquakes around the North Texas town of Azle in late 2013. Now the Texas Railroad Commission is questioning whether they had enough evidence.

**2 — West Texas Residents Raise a Fight Over Another Trans-National Pipeline, Inside Climate News 9/9/2015**  
<http://insideclimatenews.org/news/08092015/west-texas-residents-raise-fight-Trans-Pecos-pipeline-Mexico-natural-gas>

It was a late afternoon in July when James Spriggs, a West Texas rancher, was driving home and got a call from a representative of Energy Transfer Partners, a pipeline company based in Dallas. The man on the line issued him an ultimatum, Spriggs said: sign an agreement giving the company access to build a pipeline through his ranch in Marfa or face a court order in 48 hours.

**3 — State haze needs plan from EPA, filing says, Ark. Online, 9/9/2015**  
<http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2015/sep/09/state-haze-needs-plan-from-epa-filing-s/>

The Sierra Club filed a request Tuesday for a federal judge to set a deadline for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to issue a final plan for implementing a 1999 law on haze in Arkansas. The motion for summary judgment was filed in U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of Arkansas against EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy.

**4 — U.S. court finds EPA was wrong to approve Dow pesticide harmful to bees, Reuters, 9/10/15**  
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/09/10/us-epa-agriculture-honeybees-idUSKCN0RA2CQ20150910>

A U.S. appeals court ruled on Thursday that federal regulators erred in allowing an insecticide developed by Dow AgroSciences onto the market, canceling its approval and giving environmentalists a major victory. The ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, in San Francisco, is significant for commercial beekeepers and others who say a dramatic decline in bee colonies needed to pollinate key food crops is tied to widespread use of a class of insecticides known as neonicotinoids.

**5 Massive biz blitz aims to torpedo ozone rule, Hill, 9/10/2015**  
<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/253170-massive-biz-blitz-aims-to-torpedo-ozone-rule>

Major business groups are in the midst of a coordinated, multimillion-dollar effort aimed at sowing opposition to the Obama administration's smog pollution regulations. The organizations, led by the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), have been working for at least two years to discourage the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from changing its standard for ground-level ozone. NAM and its allies say the rule — to be finalized next month — would dramatically increase their costs and put up new hurdles to expansion.

**6 — Coastal energy industry bracing for climate change, website reports, Times Picayune, 9/9/2015**  
[http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2015/09/energy\\_coastal\\_restoration\\_ris.html#incart\\_river](http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2015/09/energy_coastal_restoration_ris.html#incart_river)

The double threat of coastal erosion and rising sea levels is pushing the Louisiana energy industry to think of ways to improve coastal bases and other shoreline infrastructure beyond traditional storm hardening lessons learned after Hurricane Katrina, Environment & Energy reports.

**7 — Shell bringing world's deepest floating oil production vessel to Gulf of Mexico, Times Picayune, 9/9/2015**

[http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2015/09/shell\\_turritella\\_gulf\\_of\\_mexic.html#incart\\_river](http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2015/09/shell_turritella_gulf_of_mexic.html#incart_river)

Royal Dutch Shell has launched its first floating oil production, storage and offloading vessel in the Gulf of Mexico. The facility will operate in 9,500 feet of water, making it the deepest of its kind in the world. The vessel -- named Turritella after a genus of sea snails with a long conical, spiraled shell -- is part of the company's multibillion-dollar Stones development about 200 miles southwest of New Orleans in the ultra-deep waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

**8 – On the Road With the Oil-Field Authorities Trying to Stop Oklahoma’s Earthquakes, NPR, 9/10/2015**

<https://stateimpact.npr.org/oklahoma/2015/09/10/on-the-road-with-the-oil-field-authorities-trying-to-stop-oklahomas-earthquakes/>

While the research connecting Oklahoma’s earthquake surge to oil and gas activity is built on algorithms, statistical analysis and computer models of fluid flow and seismic energy, monitoring compliance with regulatory actions designed to stop the shaking relies on muddy, manual fieldwork.

**9 – Water Board Moves to Resolve Reservoir Conflict, Texas Tribune, 9/9/2015**

<http://www.texastribune.org/2015/09/09/water-board-moves-resolve-reservoir-conflict/>

Disagreeing with Dallas-Fort Worth-area water officials, the Texas Water Development Board decided on Wednesday that a years-long conflict over a yet-to-be-built reservoir in the region’s 50-year water plan is serious enough that it should be resolved.

**10 — New Law May Not Thwart Hays County Water Project, Texas Tribune, 9/9/2015**

<http://www.texastribune.org/2015/09/09/new-law-may-not-thwart-controversial-water-project/>

On a recent weeknight, nearly 200 Hays County residents packed into the Wimberley Community Center for what some described as a celebration. Six months earlier, three times as many had stormed the place demanding state legislation they hoped would thwart a major water development project that could cannibalize their own supplies.

**11 — Fracking polluting UT System land in West Texas, report says, Dallas Morning News, 9/8/2015**

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/state/headlines/20150908-fracking-polluting-ut-system-land-in-west-texas-report-says.ece>

More than a million gallons of pollutants have been spilled on West Texas land owned by the University of Texas System because of oil drilling, according to a report released Tuesday by an environmental advocacy group. The report, which relied on records from the UT System and the Texas Railroad Commission, contends that 1.6 million gallons of pollutants, including oil and saltwater, have been spilled on leased properties since 2008. At five of the spill locations, cleanups are still underway.